



Express Mail No.: EL 500 576 454 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/821,246

Group Art Unit: 1714

Application of: *Niino et al.*

Examiner: PAUL R. MICHL

Filed: March 29, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: 5868-024

For: POLYACETAL BLOCK
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CORRECTED INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Sir:

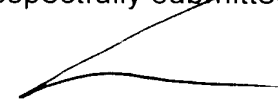
Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit to the Patent Office copies of two (2) references. A list of these references, in the format of PTO Form-1449, is also provided.

Although the references are not deemed to negate the patentability of the present claims, applicants respectfully request that these references be made of record in the application by the Examiner's completion and return of the PTO Form-1449.

No fee is believed to be due for this submission since it is being submitted concurrently with the Application. However, should any fee be required, please charge same to Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 23, 2002


Charles E. Miller

24,576
(Reg. No.)

PENNIE & EDMONDS LLP
1155 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-2711
Tel: (212) 790-9090

Attorneys For Applicants

Enclosures